

PRESS RELEASE

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MAJOR SHIFT IN OUTREACH PROGRAMMING AT CARIBOO COLLEGE

Recent decisions by the B.C. government as revealed in the Throne Speech have accelerated a shift in part-time programming at Cariboo College away from general interest subjects to more vocational and credit-type courses.

"We were moving to a greater range of credit offerings anyway," said C. W. Brewster, Principal. "We were planning to implement a new system of using mobile vans to travel throughout the region when we learned of the Government's intent to remove all subsidy of general interest programs."

"Naturally, we would have appreciated more time to shift our emphasis. We are put in a position of having to discontinue much of the work of our network of community coordinators throughout the region. These people have been our eyes and ears in the community, but we can no longer support the extensive presence we once enjoyed based on general interest programming."

Effective April 1, 1984 there will be a shift of staff from the Continuing Education Division to other divisions in the College. Regrettably, some staff will be released in both Kamloops and Williams Lake. The network of community coordinators will be disbanded for the present.

"It is unfortunate," Brewster noted. "I know how our Board agonized over this decision. We simply could not change directions quickly enough to absorb the budget reduction without considerable pain to both our staff and our communities."

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